1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33)1936 SR9 Carib SR9

single bladed, foliate type, with transverse handrest, as figured by Roth.[1] When two or more men are paddling in the same canoe they usually work by a rhythm, which is beaten with the shafts of the paddles against the gunwales. As the paddle is raised for the next stroke the shaft is tapped on the gunwale. Rhythms which are in common use are: 1) long stroke - long stroke - long stroke, etc., 2) long - short - long - short, etc. 3) long - short - short - long - short - short, etc. The bowman starts the rhythm in slow cadence which is gradually, over a period of about ten minutes, increased until it becomes too fast to follow. Then a break is made and a new rhythm started.

The woodskin (wēpʲpyu'ara) is a shallow craft made from one piece of tree bark. The bark of the purple-heart (*Copaifera pubiflora*) is considered the best material. It is constructed in the same manner as described in Roth.[2] The advantages of the woodskin are that it is light, it has a small draft which permits its use in very shallow water, and it can be made in a relatively short time in cases of emergency. A woodskin is even more unsteady than a korial, and having less freeboard, is more likely to be swamped. I saw no examples more than twelve feet long, most of them being about ten feet in length, with two-to-three-foot beam.

Cotton, rags, and mani gum are used for calking river craft. Sails and oars are not in use among the Indians of this area on their own craft.

In low water it is frequently necessary to step over the side of the korial to push or drag it over sand bars and to force it under low fallen logs which block the channel. There is also usually an inch or two of water in the bottom of the craft, so that a Carib river journey is seldom a dry experience.

The Carib technique of taking korials over falls or rapids is as follows. The boat is unloaded, and a heavy bush-rope attached to the bow. It is then brought to the foot of the immediate falls of water, and dragged by the rope and pushed by main force to the next rise. In large falls, such as that shown in the illustrations, this is an operation requiring considerable team work and constant vigilance if the korial is not to be dashed against the rocks and destroyed. The Caribs are very skillful in all forms of river

[1] Roth, 1924, *An Introductory Study of the Arts, Crafts, and Customs*, Fig. 327, C and D.
[2] Roth, 1924, *An Introductory Study of the Arts, Crafts, and Customs*, pp. 615–617.

1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33) 1936 SR9 Carib SR9

work, and, by dint of long experience, every man in a canoe party knows his place in an emergency without having to be told.

When not in use, the korial is tied to a post or tree on the bank and kept parallel to the shore by stakes which are driven into the water against its outer side. The woodskin is usually submerged in the water when not in use, so that the bark will not dry up and curl.

The skill of the Carib paddlers is shown in the sport of hunting the labba (*Coelegenys* sp.). This animal comes down to the river to drink and graze at night. On several dark nights Carib men have taken me on labba hunting expeditions, the sport being enhanced for them by my possession of an electric torch light which could be flashed in the eyes of the startled beasts. In pitch darkness, and in spite of the many logs and obstructions in the river, the canoe would be noiselessly manoeuvered along the bank without prematurely frightening the labba, which could be located by the noise of its nibbling and moving about.

When traveling on the river, a stop is usually made for the night about an hour before sundown. Time is allowed for the building of a temporary shelter on the bank or a sandbar, and for a bit of hunting and the placing of set-lines before darkness settles down.

RECREATION

Amusements, Stimulants and Narcotics, Art

As a rule the Barama Caribs are a jolly folk who in the course of their everyday lives manage to have more simple enjoyment than the average member of a more civilized society. They are continually laughing and joking among themselves even when engaged in rather arduous tasks; they enjoy entertaining their friends and being entertained, and all possible opportunities for a "good time" are seized.

Small girls play with dolls (myakonbokupo) made from patumo wood and dressed with bits of cotton or cloth. Boys play with toy bows and arrows, practising for accuracy and distance, and also play with tops (kuma'epipyo) made of a pencil-like piece of wood thrust through an akuru seed and wound with kraua string. Usually the tops are spun on the ground, occasionally in cotton

1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33) 1936 SR9 Carib SR9

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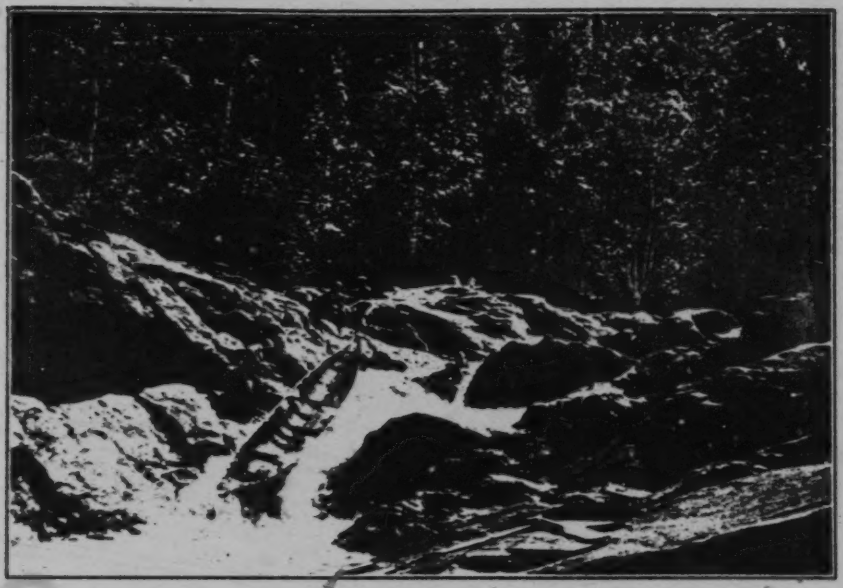

a. A portion of the "Great Falls" of the Barama at Towakaima, an impediment to navigation which has tended to isolate the settlements located above it.

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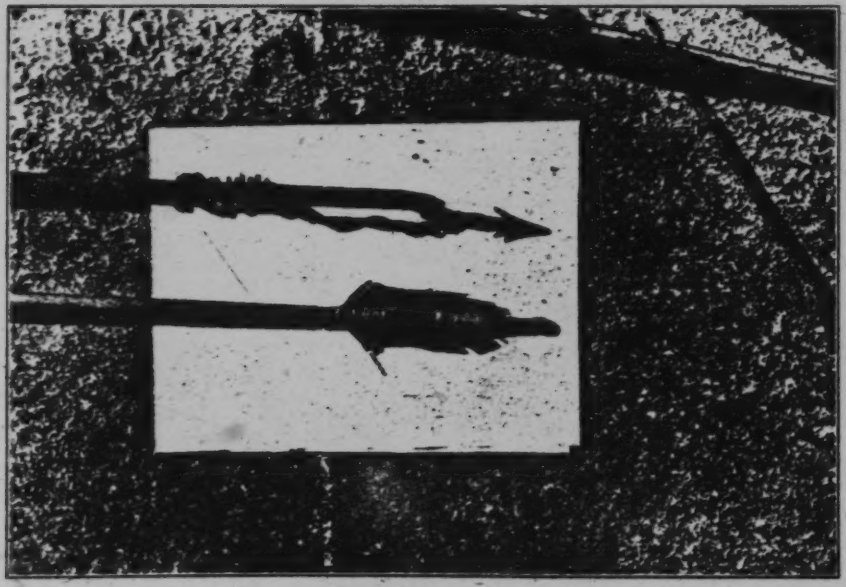

b. Feathering and tip of a harpoon arrow.

[end plate 3]